

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 174 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the State Personnel Board to award reasonable attorneys fees and costs when the Board finds that a state civil service employee has suffered discrimination.

This is the third time I have vetoed legislation containing this provision. The majority of state employees are represented by their union or excluded employee organization in matters before the State Personnel Board. In addition, employees have the option of pursuing claims in other venues that allow for the awarding of attorneys fees. For these reasons, I maintain my position that this bill is unnecessary.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger